Message

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(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=9D441DDB44AC4ED486058D2C2690B977-HODGKISS, MIRANDA]

Sent: 3/4/2019 10:52:22 PM

To: mindy@wecprotects.org

Subject: Deschutes TMDL data question

Hi Mindy,

I got your name and contact information from Andrew and Dustin at Ecology. I've been the project lead on the Deschutes TMDL at EPA for about the last year or so. I was wondering if you may be able to help me with the following question, and apologies for bothering you about a project you probably haven't thought of in years!

Last summer, EPA ended up disapproving parts of the TMDL. We are now working to develop TMDLs for the disapproved portions and are updating with any new data we can find. Our contractor was taking a look at the data, and had a question about some of the bacteria data used in the Deschutes TMDL. We are mostly wanting to know if there is a rationale for leaving off some data from Thurston County.

Here is the summary from the contractor on what they found:

We noticed that Ecology excluded Thurston County data from the analyses for the bacteria impairments. In the 2004 QAPP, they summarize Thurston County historic data and state that they intend to use it along with Ecology data. The QAPP also talks about plans for Thurston County to conduct FC stormwater monitoring to support the TMDL development. Somewhere between 2004 and 2012 Technical Report, the Thurston County data got dropped. The 2012 technical report states the following about project data:

"All project data are stored in Ecology's Environmental Information Management (EIM) system under the user study ID MROB0001 or the study name Deschutes River Watershed (WRIA 13), multi-parameter TMDL."

The Thurston County data that's in EIM database has a different study ID and name and it was excluded (we confirmed this based on sample counts). We can't find an explanation as to why the Thurston County data was excluded since the reported QA level was fairly high (Level 4: Approved QAPP or SAP; data verified and assessed for usability in a formal study report). We want to ensure that there is not a rationale for excluding the Thurston County data before we move forward with including it.

Thanks in advance for your help.

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